

Message Text

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44

ACTION STR-04

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 AGR-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05

CIEP-01 SS-15 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02

FEAE-00 OMB-01 SCA-01 AF-08 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 OIC-02

/139 W

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P R 191550Z AUG 76

FM USDEL MTN GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1838

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

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ACTION STR

H PASS CODEL

GUATEMALA PASS ROCAP

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, MTN

SUBJ: TRADE POLICY TEAM VISIT TO LATIN AMERICA - CENTRAL AMERICAN
COUNTRIES (CACM)

REF: STATE 185787

1. US MTN DEL (KNEPPER) DISCUSSED VISIT OF AMB

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YEUTTER TO SAN JOSE WITH HONDURAN AMB MARIO

CARIAS, AND NICARAGUAN AMB GASTON CAJINA.
(CARIAS SERVES AS INFORMAL COORDINATOR FOR CACM IN MTN;
COSTA RICAN AMB CARLOS DI MOTOLA, RESIDENT IN
ROME, IS BASED ON VACATION AS ARE GUATEMALA AND EL
SALVADOR MTN DELS.) AMB CARIAS EXPRESSED
APPRECIATION FOR BACKGROUND ON VISIT OF AMB
YEUTTER TO SAN JOSE, AND POSSIBILITY FOR DISCUSSIONS
WITH CACM REPRESENTATIVES. HE SAID HE WOULD SEND
MESSAGE TO TEGUCIGALPA FOR JOSE CANTOR, WHO WAS
UNTIL JULY MEMBER OF HONDURAN MTN DEL, AND TO SIECA
IN GUATEMALA CITY FOR HAROLDO RODAS, WHO WAS UNTIL
JUNE SIECA COORDINATOR IN GENEVA.

2. AMB CARIAS BELIEVED PRINCIPAL TOPIC CACM
REPS WOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS WOULD BE THAT OF THE MTN
TROPICAL PRODUCTS (TP) NEGOTIATIONS. HE NOTED THAT
CENTRAL AMERICANS, COORDINATED BY SIECA, HAD
EXPECTED TO BE MEETING DURING THIS SUMMER TO
CONSIDER RESPONSE TO US REQUEST FOR CONTRIBUTIONS
TO TP NEGOTIATIONS, BUT HE HAD NOT YET RECEIVED
REPORT OF SUCH MEETING. AS A PRELIMINARY OPINION,
AMB CARIAS NOTED THAT STUDIES BY SIECA
APPEARED TO INDICATE THAT THE US WAS ASKING TOO
HIGH A PRICE FOR THE TRADE CONCESSIONS INCLUDED IN
ITS TP OFFER. AMB CARIAS ALSO NOTED
THAT CENTRAL AMERICANS HOPED THAT SUCH FORMS OF
CONTRIBUTIONS AS ADHERENCE TO CODES NEGOTIATED IN
THE MT, OR EVEN TO THE GATT ITSELF, COULD BE
CONSIDERED AS THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO TP AND MTN
NEGOTIATIONS. US MTN DEL NOTED WITH APPRECIATION
THAT CACM COUNTRIES WERE SERIOUSLY STUDYING US
REQUEST FOR CONTRIBUTIONS, BUT NOTING TIMING
PROBLEM OF SEEKING TO REACH AGREEMENT IN TP GROUP
BEFORE OTHER ASPECTS OF THE MTN WERE COMPLETED, SUCH
AS AGREEMENT UPON INTERNATIONAL CODES.

3. CONCERNING CONSULAR FEES, AMB CARIAS
NOTED THAT THIS WAS AN IMPORTANT REVENUE ITEM FOR
CACM COUNTRIES, AND WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO ELIMINATE.
HE ALSO NOTED HONDURAN INTEREST IN POSSIBLE SECTORAL
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NEGOTIATIONS ON LUMBER AND WOOD PRODUCTS, BUT HAD
NOT RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS FROM HIS CAPITAL. AMB
CARIAS ALSO NOTED CACM COUNTRIES WERE STUDYING THE
POSSIBILITY OF NOTIFYING PRODUCTS ON WHICH THEY
WERE INTERESTED UNDER THE PROCEDURES FOR "OTHER
PRODUCTS" IN GROUP AGRICULTURE, ESPECIALLY ON THOSE
PRODUCTS ON WHICH ACTION DID NOT APPEAR POSSIBLE IN
TP GROUP.

4. MTN DEL COMMENT: CENTRAL AMERICA DELEGATIONS PARTICIPATE JOINTLY IN THE MTN, AND HAVE PRESENTED JOINT TP REQUEST LISTS. WHILE A FEW CENTRAL AMERICAN REPRESENTATIVES ATTEND MOST MTN GROUP MEETINGS, THEIR SPOKESMAN SPEAKS ONLY OCCASIONALLY, AND THEN GENERALLY IN SUPPORT OF POSITIONS TAKEN BY OTHER LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES. US HAS OUTSTANDING REQUEST FOR CONSULTATIONS ON CERTAIN QRS MAINTAINED BY GUATEMALA. CULBERT

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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TAGS: ETRD, MTN, (YEUTTER, CLAYTON)
To: STATE
Type: TE
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